

Remarks

Claims 2, 4, 12, and 15-21 were pending in the subject application, of which claims 16-21 were currently under examination. By this Amendment, claims 2, 4, 12, 15, 18, and 21 have been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 16, 17, 19, and 20 are currently before the Examiner for her consideration, and favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

The Office Action of July 30, 2002 indicated that claims 16, 17, 19, and 20 were allowable. Claims 18 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Applicants have cancelled claims 2, 4, 12, 15, 18, and 21 solely for the purpose of expediting the issuance of allowable claims 16, 17, 19, and 20. However, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 2, 4, 12, 15, 18, and 21 in related applications.

The Examiner indicated that the current application lacked the current status of the non-provisional parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/191,997. This issue has been obviated by the present amendment to the specification.

In the Office Action of July 30, 2002, the filing date of the parent application, 09/191,997, filed November 13, 1998, was considered as the priority date. For purpose of establishing the effective priority date, Applicants were requested to identify which provisional, if any, contain the protein and encoding nucleic acid sequences and to identify what the SEQ ID NOs. are in those applications that correspond to the instant invention. Applicants respectfully respond that the protein of SEQ ID NO:92, which is disclosed in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/066,677, filed November 13, 1997, and in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/069,957, filed December 17, 1997, corresponds to the protein of SEQ ID NO:186 of the present application. The protein of SEQ ID NO:92 is encoded by the cDNA of SEQ ID NO:45 in U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/066,677 and 60/069,957.

The Office Action has requested copies of the references cited in the IDS filed May 20, 2002 that were not submitted with parent application 09/191,997. Paper copies of those references are enclosed herewith and, for the convenience of the Examiner, a Form 1449 is provided herewith for initialing in the consideration of these references.

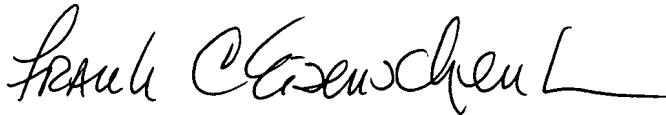


Applicants also request entry of the attached Communication with Revocation of Power of Attorney and New Power of Attorney transferring power to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is fully in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Marked-Up Version of Amended Paragraph of Specification
Information Disclosure Statement, with attachments
Communication with attachments regarding Power of Attorney



**Marked-Up Version of Amended Paragraph of Specification**

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/191,997 filed 13-November 13, 1998 (now abandoned), and claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/066,677, filed November 13, 1997, ~~US.~~ U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/069,957, filed December 17, 1997; U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/074,121, filed February 9, 1998; U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/081,563, filed April 13, 1998; ~~US.~~ U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/096,116, filed August 10, 1998;; and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/099,273, filed September 4, 1998, the entireties of which are hereby incorporated by reference.